

REMARKS

Applicants submit this Amendment in response to the Office Action mailed on October 19, 2005, which Office Action contained a Final Rejection of the claims.

The claims have been amended as follows. Claim 21 has been amended to call for filaments that have a diameter of 1 to less than 5 nm. Support for this amendment is found in the specification on page 16, lines 8 to 9. In a telephone discussion with the Examiner on December 16, 2005, the Examiner indicated that he would enter this amendment to the claims following final rejection. Additionally, claim 22 has been canceled as have claims 13-20 and 27-29 that were previously withdrawn from consideration but had not yet been canceled.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 21-22, 24-26, and 50-53 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the disclosure of Scherzinger, Cell, 90:549-558 (1997). Applicants traverse the rejection of these claims on this ground. Claim 23, which calls for a filament diameter less than about 3 nm is not rejected on this ground.

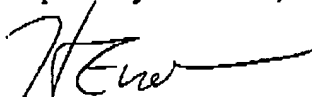
Claim 21 has been amended to call for a filament diameter between 1 nm and less than 5 nm in diameter. As discussed with the Examiner on December 16, 2005, and as the Examiner indicated in the present Office Action on page 4, paragraph 5, Scherzinger discloses a filament diameter between 5 to 10 nm.

Applicants submit that this Amendment to the claims overcomes the rejection of the claims as being anticipated by Scherzinger and the Examiner is requested to reconsider and to withdraw the rejection of these claims on this ground.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the claims, as amended herein, are in condition for allowance and request an early notice to that effect. In the event the Examiner does not agree, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicants to determine if any outstanding issues may be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

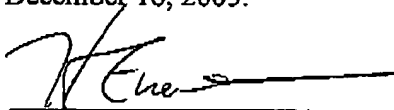


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited by facsimile transmission to the Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on December 16, 2005.

Dated: December 16, 2005



Howard M. Eisenberg